

SENATE BILL 617
By Jackson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 41,
relative to jails.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 41-4-141, is amended by deleting such section in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

§ 41-4-141.

(a) It is the intent of the general assembly to allow interlocal agreements where two (2) or more counties jointly operate a jail. The general assembly finds that regional jails would allow counties to save funds and lower their liability risks.

(b) Nothing in this chapter or any other provision of general law shall be construed to prevent two (2) or more counties from entering into an interlocal agreement for the joint operation of a jail to serve the counties so agreeing.

(c) Such interlocal agreement may specify that:

(1) One (1) county actually operate the facility, but all participating counties equally share policy and decision-making responsibilities; or

(2) Adjoining counties may contract with a single county to house their prisoners and relinquish their authority regarding policy and decision-making; or

(3) Each participating county operates its own facility for pre-trial inmates, but joins with other counties for post-conviction incarcerations.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.